

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :  
Tomoaki OMOTO et al. : **Mail Stop: PCT**  
Serial No. NEW : Attorney Docket No. 2006\_0381A  
Filed March 21, 2006 :

POWDERED MOLDING POWDER FOR  
CONTINUOUS CASTING OF STEEL  
[Corresponding to PCT/JP2004/014347  
Filed September 30, 2004]

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the interest of compact prosecution, please amend the present application as follows: